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U. S. Department of Agriculture

# CACTI

— of —

*Our Southwestern  
Deserts*

1929

BRIDWELL BROTHERS  
WINKELMAN, ARIZONA

# Cacti of Our Southwestern Deserts

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**O**WING to our having recently moved our business from New Mexico to this place we are discontinuing, for the present season the listing of all plants except Cacti. This is made necessary by our inability to get our stock of shrubs and wild flowers moved and re-established in time for spring shipment.

In our former location climatic conditions were such that it was impossible to grow Cacti and the less hardy plants in the open field. This necessitated frequent trips to collect plants and as these trips were quite often of a week's duration the result was many exasperating delays in filling orders. For these delinquencies we offer our many customers our sincere (if belated) apologies.

In our new location, which is ideal for the propagation of Cacti and allied plants, we shall try at all times to have on hand sufficient stock to enable us to fill orders in the shortest time possible. If for any reason we are temporarily out of any item ordered we will promptly refund the price paid, unless there is a request with order for substitution, naming second choice.

To our old customers it will not be necessary to dwell upon the quality of our stock, but for the benefit of those that might feel inclined to send us a "first order" during 1929 we will say that it is our policy, always, to ship the best plants obtainable, each one being selected for shape, color of spines and general health.

To those having their first experience in growing Cacti we offer the following cultural suggestions: Upon receipt of plants, if roots are dry or bruised use a sharp knife to cut them back to live, healthy tissue and place in direct sunlight for two or three days, or until well calloused. If used for indoor gardens pot only in containers that have adequate provision for drainage. Conventional flower pots are ideal for this purpose, but where there is a preference for the more artistic bowls that are in such favor at the present time we would caution you against using any but those that are unglazed, unless there is the customary drainage outlet in the bottom. Place a layer of coarse gravel, coal cinders or small bits of broken brick in bottom of pot and fill with soil composed of equal parts of clay loam, clean sand and fine gravel, to which mixture should be added a small amount of air-slacked lime. Water well when first setting plants to settle soil around roots and so avoid air pockets, thereafter keeping soil barely moist. For outdoor gardens, unless you are fortunate enough to possess a well drained hillside, it is best to build up the bed a foot above surrounding ground. Where soil is unusually "tight" we would advise excavating to a depth of a foot or more and filling with rocks or broken bricks up to original ground level before building up bed. Use same soil mixture as advised for indoor gardens for raised portion of bed, adding any large rocks that might strike your fancy for artistic effect. We want to emphasize the necessity for perfect drainage as this is a paramount importance in the successful cultivation of Cacti. These plants will stand a considerable amount of moisture in the shape of rainfall if beds are arranged so all excess water will be quickly drained from around plants. Locate the Cacti garden where it will receive a maximum of sunlight throughout the day. A weak kerosene emulsion is excellent for ridding plants of insect pests, though we find any of the standard brands of insect powder equally as effective and cleaner to handle.

We are often asked "How large are the Cacti you advertise?" or "Will the plants I am ordering bloom for me this year?" Our answer is, all plants sent out, with the exception of our \$1.50 collection for miniature gardens and the few instances noted in descriptive text, are of average size for the species and are guaranteed to have bloomed the previous season. Cacti ordered during the early months of the year are practically certain to bloom during the following spring or summer, provided they have had reasonably good care. Whether or not they bloom the following seasons depends upon the treatment they receive during the winter months. They should be "rested" during this period by storing in a well lighted room where the temperature never gets higher than 50 or lower than 40 degrees, and watered just often enough to prevent excessive shrinking. In the spring place in a warm, sunny place with a temperature of 60 degrees or over and water more frequently. This starts growth at the normal time and is more likely to result in blooms.

Cacti are native to the warmer sections of our country where the temperature seldom or never gets as low as zero and the species are hardy enough to stand the winters of the northern and eastern states are too few to be seriously considered in planning a Cactus garden. For this reason we do not advise leaving plants in open beds during the winter. To keep from disturbing the roots when changing from winter to summer quarters they may be potted in ordinary flower pots only slightly larger than the plants, and when the weather is suitable for them to be transferred to the outdoor garden the pot can be sunk flush with the soil and the edges covered with a light layer of sand or gravel.

The prices given on the following pages are as low as we can make them considering the quality of our stock, therefore we make no reduction in quantity lots. We do not cater to the wholesale trade, preferring to deal direct with the fancier. With the exception of the special, collections offered prices are for plants f.o.b. Winkelman, Ariz. Where requested to do so we will be glad to send plants by parcel post, C.O.D. for carriage charges, otherwise we ship by express, charges collect.

We make no charge for packing and are unusually careful in preparing all orders for shipment. Cacti are guaranteed to reach customer in good condition and we replace, free of charge any that fail to do so.

Terms are cash with order. We make no exceptions to this rule.

## OPUNTIAS

As Opuntias are easily rooted and make a rapid growth we ship cuttings only at the prices given.

### CYLINDRIC OPUNTIAS (Tree Cactus)

**O. arborescens**—Of erect, branching growth, 6 ft. high with 1 in. white to straw colored spines and showy reddish purple flowers 2 to 3 in. across. Summer. 25c.

**O. spinosior**—Superficially resembling the above but with shorter, more numerous spines that at a distance give the plant a decided pinkish tinge. Flowers purple. Summer. 25c.

**O. fulgida**—This is the famed "cholla" of the southwestern deserts. Of tree like growth, 6 to 10 ft. high with drooping branches thickly covered with glistening, straw colored spines. Flowers purple, 2 in. across. Summer. 25c.

**O. mamillata**—Size, manner of growth and flowers very much like the preceding but with spines fewer and considerably shorter. 25c.

**O. biglovei**—Lower, more compact growth than either of the above, with long, straw colored spines all but hiding the body of the plant, the joints resembling elongated chestnut burrs. A striking plant,. Flowers greenish red. Summer. 25c.

**O. versicolor**—An open branching plant, 5 ft. high, with slender joints, comparatively few spines, and numerous 2 to 3 in. flowers varying in color from terra cotta to yellow. Summer. 25c.

**O. leptocaulis**—Of erect, bushy growth with very slender pencil-like branches and few 2 in. yellow spines. Flowers are numerous, greenish yellow in color and followed by bright red, berry-like fruits that are very ornamental. Summer. 25c.

**O. kliniae**—an erect, slender branching variety with greatly elongated joints one-half in. in diameter, few spines and many greenish-purple flowers over an inch across. Summer. 25c.

**O. stanleyi**—A low, spreading plant with club-shaped joints, forming beds 6 ft. or more in diameter and rarely over 12 in. high. Joints armed with long, very rigid brown spines and bearing many lemon-yellow flowers 2 to 3 in. across. Summer. 25c.

#### PLATYOPUNTIAS (Prickly Pears)

**O. englemanni**—Yellowish-green joints 10 in. or more in diameter with 1 in. yellow spines and forming large, rounded clumps with all but the lower joints held clear of the ground. Flowers yellow with orange centers. Summer. Spring. 30c.

**O. wootoni**—Large bluish-green joints up to 18 in. long and 10 in. wide, armed with stiff white spines and bearing many showy yellow flowers with reddish centers. Semi-erect in growth and a very desirable species. Summer. 35c.

**O. macrocentra**—Semi-erect, with 8 in. bluish-green joints conspicuously tinged with purple and armed on the upper parts of the joints with slender, dark-brown spines that sometimes reach a length of 4 in. Flowers yellow. Summer. 30c.

**O. tricophora**—A small, spreading plant with joints 2 to 3 in. long and densely covered with long, flexible, white spines resembling stiff hairs. Flowers yellow. Summer. 25.

**O. filipendula**—Another of the smaller species with yellowish-green joints, few stiff spines, and making a more compact growth than the preceding. The chief charm of this little plant is the profusion of deep pink flowers, over 2 in. across. Summer. 25c.

**O. chlorotica**—Stiffly erect, up to 6 ft. high with a well defined trunk. Yellowish-green joints short yellow spines pressed close against body of plant. Flowers yellow. Summer. 35c.

**O. ficus-indica**—A much larger plant than the above but with the same compact, erect growth and with us reaching a height of 15 ft. Clean, bluish-green in color and spineless. Flowers yellow. 35c.

#### MAMILLARIA (Pincushion Cactus)

**M. grahami**—Grows up to 4 in. high and 3 in. in diameter with weak, white radial spines and each tubercle bearing a single, slender, dark brown, hooked central 1 in. long. Flowers bright pink. Spring and Summer. 25c.

**M. tuberculosa**—Small elongated plant up to 6 in. high with numerous ash-gray spines tipped with purple. One inch bright pink flowers. Makes clusters. Spring and Summer. 25c.



**M. radiosa**—Small, globose and about 3 in. high with a lace work of close lying white spines tipped with brown. The large clear pink flowers make this one of the best varieties for the small garden. Summer. 30c.

**M. heyderi**—Flat topped, turnip shaped plant up to 5 in. in diameter, rarely growing more than an inch above the ground and covered with many fine white spines. Flowers white striped with tan in a circle well away from center of plant. Summer. 30c.

**M. meiacantha**—Very much like the above in shape and flowers but with fewer and darker spines. The body of the plant is a rich, glossy green and is one of the most desirable of the lower growing varieties. Summer. 30c.

**M. macromeris**—Three inches in diameter with long dusky spines and loosely spreading, prominent tubercles. Flowers large, satiny purple and very showy. Makes large rounded clusters and only divisions can be furnished at the present time. These root readily and really are individual plants. Summer. 30c.

**M. scheeri**—The largest single mamillaria we list, growing up to 8 in. in height and 6 in. in diameter. This is a beautiful species with its stout, pale yellow spines and large honey-colored flowers. Summer. \$2.00 each for medium sized plants. Stock limited.

**M. lasiacantha**—One of the smallest cacti in existence, blooming when scarcely more than a half inch in diameter. Covered with soft white spines and bearing in early spring many very pale pink flowers in a circle at the top of the plant. 30c.

**M. micromeris**—Another of the smaller varieties, never more than 2 in. in diameter and seldom that much in height. Covered with a closely woven network of fine white spines and tiny, shell-pink flowers in early summer. 30c.

#### **ECHINOCEREUS (Hedghog Cactus)**

**Es. rigidissimus**—With its alternating bands of red and white spines this is very appropriately called "Rainbow Cactus." Grows up to 12 in. high and 4 in. in diameter and crowned in early summer with many large white and crimson flowers. 75c to \$1.50.

**Ec. fendleri**—Short cylindric plant, averaging 6 in. high with medium length brownish-gray spines and large purple flowers. Forms small clusters. 30c.

**Ec. stramineus**—Individual plants 3 to 6 in. high with long straw-colored spines, eventually forming immense clusters with as many as 100 individuals. Gorgeous purple flowers 3 in. across. 30c for single plants, not blooming size.

**Es. gonacanthus**—Stout plant up to 15 in. high with comparatively few, sharply angular ribs and few very stiff, ash-gray spines as much as 3 in. long. Flowers very deep scarlet and borne in profusion. Makes clusters of as many as 15 individuals. Single plants \$1.00.

**Ec. coccineus**—A hardy variety with short yellow spines, forming large clusters and covered in spring with bright scarlet flowers. 30c.

**Ec. chloranthus**—Grows up to 10 in. high with variegated red and white spines, colors sometimes in well defined bands. Flowers borne well down the stem and bright green in color. Makes clusters. 30c.

**Ec. dasyacanthus**—Short cylindric up to 10 in. high, densely covered with short, stiff spines that vary in color from white to deep pink. Flowers light yellow, 3 in. across. Solitary or sometimes branching with age, 30c to 60c.

### **ECHINOCACUTS (Devil's Head Cactus)**

**E. horizonthalonius**—Hemispherical to globose, 6 in. in diameter, 7 to 9 thick, rounded ribs and efficiently armed with very stout curved pink spines. Flowers bright pink, 3 in. across and very showy. 25c to 50c.

**E. intertextus**—Globose, up to 4 in. in diameter, thickly covered with short dusky spines and bearing in early spring many light pink flowers. 30c.

### **FEROACTUS (Fish Hook Cactus)**

**F. uncinatus, var, wrighti**—A small, deeply ribbed plant, up to 6 in. high with long, flexible, sharply hooked- yellow spines. Flowers are crowded close together at the center and are of a peculiar reddish-brown color that is seldom seen in any flower. Not common. 50c to \$1.00.

**F. wislizeni**—Enormous barrel shaped plant, growing up to 4 ft. high and 20 in. in diameter, acute ribs armed with stout, banded spines, one of which reaches a length of 4 in. and is strongly hooked. Flowers large, deep yellow with darker centers, followed by large, lemon colored fruits which persist until well into the winter. \$1.00 up, according to size.

### **NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS**

**Peniocereus greggi**—The only species of these interesting plants we stock at present and we can offer but a few tubers this season. Plants usually make one to three ascending stems, slender, four-angled and with a soft velvety sheen and are armed with very short dark spines. Flowers are large, white and open at dusk, remaining open only during the night. Tubers only at \$1.50 to \$5.00.

### **"SAHUARO"**

**Carnegiea gigantea**—This is the justly celebrated "Giant Cactus" of Arizona. Reaches a height of 50 ft. Prominent ribs armed with dark gray spines and crowned in early summer with many waxy-white flowers, 3 in. across to be followed by large edible fruits. We carry only 6 to 12 in. sizes in stock at \$1.50 to \$3.00.

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For Wildflowers, Shrubs and Cacti of Texas and the South plains write to W. A. Bridwell, Forestburg, Texas.

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For Wildflowers, Shrubs and Cacti of Oklahoma and the Centrol Plains write to Mrs. G. B. Belew, Route 2, Harmon, Okla.

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